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BIG 3 TALKS REPORTED IN MOST CRITICAL STAGE

Reuter Scribe Says Future of Germany Is Biggest Problem Under Discussion

The American delegation to the "Big-Three" Conference on Saturday has authorized a statement declaring, "The Conference is going ahead and much serious business has been done," a Domei dispatch from Zurich quoting a Potsdam dispatch revealed.

Reuter's special correspondent reported the assumption that the statement coming within 72 hours of the earlier declaration that the "Big-Three" were meeting regularly would indicate not only the extent of the progress, but that discussions are now in their most critical stage.

He declared that there is little room for doubt that the future of Germany is at the head of the conference problems and that the "Big-Three" are grappling with the difficulties that extend not only to Germany, but to Europe as a whole. This is confirmed by the disclosure that reparations experts are taking a prominent part in the talks and that President Truman had summoned Admiral Emory Land, U.S. War Shipping Administrator, posthaste to the conference, he said.

Another official announcement on Saturday stated, Reuters continued, that Lieutenant General Lucius B. Clay, Deputy to General Eisenhower on the group control council, dined with President Truman on Friday night.

The report then listed the major German issues in the order in which they probably are being dealt by the three leaders. They are:

(1) Occupation—common basis of action in the occupation of Germany.

(2) Reparations—Common policy in respect to aims of occupation and terms of reparations. In consideration of this problem the "Big-Three" have come face to face with two conflicting views. The Germans cannot pay reparations in money or in kind unless the German industry, state machinery and measure of market trade are restored. On the other hand, no reparations will ever come out of Germany if it is deindustrialized to avoid any possible danger of a further German war.

(3) Military Government—At the present time the military government of Germany in American and British zones is virtually at a standstill awaiting further directions on the policy from the "Big-Three." It is pointed out that the military government is still a government, but it has no power to provide food, transportation, fuel and other basic commodities from the outside.

(4) New Germany—The need for agreement on what will constitute a postwar Germany.

MOP-UP ON TERNATE ENDS

Enemy in Northern Sector of Isle Given Final Blow

By Courtesy of the Press Section

The Japanese Units on Ternate Island that have been battling with the enemy since the latter's landing on the island on June 25, completed their mopping-up operation on and around July 18.

In the vigorous counter-action, the Japanese encircled the enemy troops in the northern section of the island and killed or wounded more than 500 soldiers.

Interning Japanese Diplomats

According to a Washington report dated July 20 received in Lisbon, U.S. State Department officials explained yesterday the reason why Japanese diplomats soon to arrive from Europe in the United States will be interned at a hotel instead of a concentration camp. The Department's representative said that the Japanese are holding some 12,000 to 14,000 American civilians as prisoners and America hopes to exchange them for many of the prisoners.

U.S. Casualties Mount

The U.S. War and Navy Department announcement on Wednesday placed United States war casualties at 1,053,101, according to a Lisbon report. This is an increase of about 5,400 over the figure released a week ago. Included are 917,442 casualties for the army and 135,659 for the navy, marine corps and coast guard. The death in all services totaled 244,800.

Colombia President Quits

President Alfonso Lopez of Colombia resigned on July 19, according to a Bogota dispatch as relayed by Domei from Lisbon,

SECRECY AT POTSDAM HIT

Daily Mail Says People Not Interested in Delegates' Menus

Zurich report revealed on Saturday that the London Daily Mail protesting bitterly the "security curtain" veiling the Potsdam Conference activities declared, "We want to know the conference agenda not delegates' menus." The paper stated. "If this is diplomacy, it is just as injurious to peace as old diplomacy."

The paper went on to say that they were not interested in "how much and what's being eaten and drunk at Potsdam" but are "very concerned with the hunger in Greece, Holland, Belgium and France and want to know what the Big-Three are doing to fight against the food and fuel shortages in liberated countries."

The London Daily Mail suggested that the "security curtain" should lift itself "sparing us the description of the comfort and gala dinners in Potsdam."

KING'S RETURN OPPOSED BY PREMIER VAN ACKER

Raps Belgian Monarch in Lower House Debate for Being Hitler's Guest in Reich

According to a Brussels report dated July 20 received in Stockholm, Belgian Prime Minister Achille van Acker today opened the debate in the Chamber of Deputies regarding the position of King Leopold and his reason for opposing the return of the King to Belgium.

Expressing his feelings of pity toward the King whose life had been marked by tragedies, the Prime Minister stated that "we must do all in our power to preserve a parliamentary monarchy, which is the cement of national unity and let us not be blinded by passion."

Summing up the position of the King, he said: "I hold that he did not betray us, but that believing in a German victory he committed so many grave mistakes that nothing else is left to him than do disappear."

"King Leopold did not react to the German occupation as the rest of the Belgian did," he continued. "He did not resist the most flagrant breach of international law, the deportation of international law, the deportation of civilians. His protest was late, feeble and unconvincing. He had shocked the feelings of Belgians by going to Germany. At Berchtesgaden, he was received in state and remained closeted with Hitler for two hours."

"No doubt, he wished to please the Belgians and her prisoners of war," he went on. "But the note the King took with him to the interview dealt with other points, the independence of Belgium and the royal dynasty. The vital interests of Belgium cannot be sacrificed to one man whoever he may be. We have endeavored to show understanding, patience and moderation, but we believe the time has come to put an end to shilly-shally."

Van Acker criticized the King's advisers who had prevented his abdication. All the time this issue had been discussed, he declared, the Sovereign was torn between different and contradictory influences so that his opinion changed several times in the course of a single day. He also said that the King's second marriage had harmed the Monarch's prestige among the people.

Meanwhile, another report said the Regent Prince Charles has still not accepted the resignations of his six Catholic cabinet ministers who opposed demands for the King's abdication.

Acker declared in the course of a speech he delivered in the Chamber of Representatives on July 20, that the Belgian nation should establish Crown Prince Baudouin on the Throne, according to a Brussels report relayed by Domei from Lisbon on July 20. Crown Prince Baudouin is now 14 years old.

Manila Inflation Growing

According to a Manila report dated July 19 received in Lisbon, inflation is growing greater each day. It said that buying power of the peso, which is pegged at 50 cents, American exchange rate, has declined to seven cents. Clothing sells for 1,500 per cent above prewar level, while house rentals have jumped 360 per cent.

Discusses Algeria's Future

According to a Paris report dated July 19 received in Lisbon, French Interior Minister Andre Texier, speaking of Algeria's future, stated today that the administration must be reformed and economic and social reforms must also be put in order.

CHUNGKING GOVERNMENT GIVEN FOUR-POINT DEMAND

People's Council Voices Opposition Against Opening Date of Congress

The opening of the People's National Congress of Chungking may be postponed despite the fact that the Kuomintang had provisionally decided on its convocation on November 12, because the People's Political Council on July 18 approved the bill for leaving the decision of the date of convoking the People's Congress to the Government, according to a Domei report from Lisbon, quoting a U.P. dispatch from Chungking.

Other important bills approved the same day were the bill for adjusting Chungking-Yenan relations, the bill for guaranteeing the position of all political parties, and the bill for guaranteeing freedom of speech.

Recently, the Chungking regime has been attacked for its despotic attitude both by the Yenan regime and the progressive faction within Chungking-controlled territory, and this tendency seems to have affected the atmosphere at the People's Political Council. Respecting this point, the United Press made the following report on July 19.

"The two-week deliberation by the People's Political Council is now nearing its end, but on July 18, the Council, with the overwhelming majority of 170 members out of the total attendance of 190, demanded that the government adopt the following measures before the convocation of the People's National Congress.

"1. To unite the Chungking and Yenan factions.

"2. To give all political parties other than the Kuomintang, proper legal standing.

"3. To grant freedom of speech and assembly.

"4. To organize election structures in the provinces.

"In discussing the above points, there developed fierce opposition against the opening of the People's National Congress on November 12, but the date provisionally fixed by the Sixth National Congress was not directly denied. It was only decided to leave the decision of the time of the convocation of the People's National Congress to the government.

"Furthermore, it was demanded that the government fully consider the legal position of the People's Congress as an organ representing the people, and also the Council urged that the new constitution should be immediately put into effect when it is finally drafted."

People's Council Closing

A UP dispatch from Chungking which reached Shanghai reports that the People's Political Council which was opened at Chungking on July 7 is to be closed on July 20, according to Domei.

Dr. T. V. Soong, President of the Executive Yuan, is scheduled to make a report on general administrative affairs at the last session of the council.

Dr. T. V. Soong, President of the Chungking Executive Yuan who recently held talks with Premier Stalin in Moscow, greatly disappointed the members of the People's Political Council on Friday when in his address he said nothing definite about his conference with the Soviet leaders, according to a dispatch from Lisbon quoting a Chungking Reuters report.

Instead, Soong recited his opinions of the current war situation. According to the Reuters report he predicted that the war would be finished "by the end of the year or at the latest beginning of next year." The Government, he said, would be reorganized immediately for the purpose of postwar reconstruction and added that arrangements have been made with the United States for building up the country's industry and economic development.

Petain's Trial Set For July 24

The public trial of Marshal Henri Petain will be held as scheduled at the first court-room of the Paris Appelate Court on July 24, contrary to rumor which said that the trial had been postponed to August 4, according to an announcement issued by the French Provisional Government, says a July 20 Domei dispatch from Zurich, quoting a Paris report.

Plans Monarchy for Spain

According to a Madrid report dated July 19 received in Lisbon, Spanish Chief of State General Francisco Franco is reported to be prepared today to make his first move toward returning back to Monarchy, and that the Cabinet will undergo a change.

SOONG REPORTS ON TALKS

Mentions Plan for Chungking-Soviet Economic Agreement

T. V. Soong, President of the Chungking Executive Yuan, who returned to Chungking on July 17 after his conference with Premeir Stalin in Moscow, submitted an outline report of the conference to the Political Council on July 20, says a Domei report from Shanghai quoting a Chung Ying News Agency dispatch dated July 21.

According to information reaching Shanghai on July 21, at the Political Council, T. V. Soong announced that at the conference with Stalin negotiations had satisfactorily progressed regarding the conclusion of a Chungking-Soviet economic agreement, and the construction of railway lines to the Soviet capital for the economic development of Sinkiang and Kansu provinces. He did not refer to the other topics discussed at the conference.

YENAN REGIME PREPARES FOR PEOPLE'S CONGRESS

Standing Committee Decides Number of Delegates to Attend Meeting

The Yenan regime opened a session of the Committee to Prepare for the Congress of Representatives of Liberated Districts in China on July 18, with the attendance of Mao Tse-tung, Chou En-lai and 21 other members of the committee, says a Domei report from Shanghai, quoting the Hsinhua News Agency.

The Standing Committee decided upon the number of delegates to attend the coming Congress as follows:

1. Five delegates representing minor races will be selected from the Mohammedans, Mongolians, Tibetans, the Miao race and another race.
2. Five delegates representing agricultural bodies will be selected from Central China, Shantung, the Shensi-Chahar-Hopei district, the Shansi-Hopei-Shantung-Honan district, and the Shansi-Suiyuan district.
3. Five delegates representing universities will be selected from the Yenan, Anti-Japanese Military Administration, Dental, North China, and Central China Construction universities.
4. Five religious delegates will represent Christianity, Mohammedanism, Lamaism and Buddhism.

The number of the delegates representing the people's organizations in the territory under the control of the Kuomintang will be shortly decided.

MISERY IN YUGOSLAVIA

Chief of Soviet Mission Complains Of Lack of Supplies

"If members of the combined allocations board in Washington would spend a day in Yugoslavia, they would not continue the supplies at the present inadequate level," declared the Russian chief of the UNRRA mission, Mikal Sergeychik in Belgrade on Saturday, it is disclosed in a report from Belgrade to Lisbon.

"Further reduction of allocations in Washington means an increase in the death rate in Europe," he declared. He said that the UNRRA supplies had been reduced so drastically that allocations for Poland, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania were not enough to cover the needs of Yugoslavia alone and of the over 450,000 tons of food promised by the military liaison (military government organization paralleling the UNRRA) for the first six months of this year little over one-fourth had been delivered.

The Russian chief disclosed that many returning refugees who had died and been buried at the roadsides of Yugoslavia were "casualties not of war but of liberation"—victims of promise that would make an ironic epitaph," Sergeychik charged.

The people of Yugoslavia were living on bread and grass, he said. In Vlasenica children ate only every other day. Unless relief came before the snows, thousands would die.

Bulgaria Recognizes Poland

The Bulgarian Government is reported to have recognized the Polish Government of National Unity at Warsaw, according to a report of the Bulgarian News Agency, a Reuter dispatch from London as relayed by Domei from Lisbon reported on July 19.

SITUATION IN ITALY

Political Disturbances Staged in Many Principal Centers

Disturbances of political character have been staged during the past week in many principal centers of northern Italy partly in protest against the measures adopted by the Allied occupation authorities whose alleged tenderness for capitalistic interests have excited left-wing suspicion, according to a Reuters report reaching Lisbon.

The report said that disturbances have occurred against a background of economic deadlock characterized by enforced idleness of workers due to lack of fuel and raw materials. In Turin on Wednesday demonstrators attacked the offices of the Stampa newspaper, property during the Fascist era of the giant Fiat motor concern, whose reappearance the Allied authorities sanctioned this week.

BRITAIN AND SOVIET UNION WILL KEEP TROOPS IN IRAN

No Decision Taken to Accede To Request of Iran to Evacuate Zones of Occupation

British and Soviet troops are to stay in Iran for the time being according to informed quarters in London which stated that no decision had been taken so far to accede to the request of the Iranian Government to evacuate the respective zones of occupation now that the war in Europe is ended, Reuters correspondent Jon Kimche reported from London on Friday in a dispatch reaching Lisbon.

He declared it is even thought questionable now in informed quarters if the time and opportunity will be found at Potsdam to discuss this specific point which does not directly affect the United States Government as all American personnel has already been withdrawn from Iran.

The British attitude has remained unchanged since the reply to the Iran Government's note, the correspondent said. The reply stated that the request would be sympathetically considered, but that action had to be coordinated with the Soviet Government. Since then little progress is believed to have been made in this direction.

Wants Troops Removed

Premier Fayez Khoury of Syria in an interview declared on Friday that "so long as foreign troops remained in Syria and Lebanon for purposes other than to prosecute the war in the Far East, they would be a threat to their independence" and stressed the hope that "foreign troops would be withdrawn from Levant by late summer," it is disclosed in a Reuters Damascus report reaching Lisbon.

Concerning the final settlement with the French, the Premier said, "We are determined to be just and even liberal with them in the matter of compensation for buildings and installations they have erected. But many of these buildings and installations have been erected with Syrian and Lebanese money," he stressed. He added, "In the final settlement, too, we shall have to take into consideration the damage and loss of life in Damascus and elsewhere during the recent troubles. The Syrian Government is making estimates in this connection," he added.

SPAIN SHUFFLING CABINET

Artajo May Be New Foreign Minister; Franco Speech Discussed

It is rumored that in the Spanish Cabinet changes, which are now expected to take place before the weekend, Alberto Martin Artajo, at present Secretary of the Council of State and President of the Catholic faction, may replace Jose Lequerica as Minister of Foreign Affairs, it is revealed in a Madrid dispatch dated July 20 reaching Lisbon, according to Domei.

Meanwhile, a Paris dispatch of July 20 to Lisbon, declared that Spanish Republican circles in Paris while not surprised by General Francisco Franco's latest speech announcing the eventual return of monarchy, declare that Franco's days are numbered. These circles point out that Don Juan does not appear to fulfil Franco's ideas for the monarch, since Don Juan envisages a monarchy in which the Republicans and Socialists would have to part—an arrangement which is not acceptable to Franco who is seeking another king. They predict that Franco will not last more than 100 days, and add that when the moment comes the Spanish people will rise and install a Republic.

The newspaper Le Monde in its leading article on July 19 declared that Franco's speech did not satisfy even the Spanish Monarchists themselves, who, the paper said, "sense in certain passages of the speech a threat to supplant Don Juan by another pretender if he should not show himself sufficiently amenable."

NEW PLANS ARE SET FORTH TO STRENGTHEN THE NATION

Minister of Finance Says Steps Will Be Adopted to Curb Inflationary Trend

Finance Minister Toyosaku Hirose, speaking on various financial and banking affairs at Osaka on July 21, declared that privately operated branch offices of banks will be opened and that the increased salt production program would be promoted vigorously.

"In order to curb the inflationary tendency caused by the bombing of banks in the major cities, the evacuation to the provinces by raid victims and the settling of evacuees in the interior, branch offices of the Savings Bank of Japan will be increased, the major banks will be removed to the provinces, the provincial banks will be moved further into the interior areas, privately-managed insurance company representative offices will be made to operate as local banks and to adhere to a policy of absorbing as much capital as possible," said the Finance Minister.

"The absorption of the capital of the new tax-paying class and raid victims will be conducted along new lines through the promotion of increased savings. I believe it to be urgent to increase the war insurance coverage on such staple foods as rice, wheat grains and sweet and Irish potatoes. Concrete plans are being drawn up and will be brought into effect early next month.

"In order to establish a self-sufficiency of salt through increased production, we shall shortly enforce a subsidy system through which to encourage increased salt production as is now being done to promote the production of foodstuffs and coal," concluded Finance Minister Hirose.

ANTI-SOVIET UNDERTONE FELT AT 'FRISCO CONFAB

Too many members of the American delegation conceive the United Nations Conference as one for an organization of an anti-Soviet bloc under its leadership, declared the Nation in an article published in its May 12 issue which pointed out the strong "anti-Russian undertone," according to a Washington dispatch relayed from Lisbon.

Not a few of them are reckless enough to think or talk of it in terms of a third world war against the Soviets, continued the Nation. That this is the basic pattern of the conference is the conviction of many American foreign correspondents in San Francisco and the progressive members of the American delegation.

The way in which the news of the 16 Polish arrests was given out to the press and the timing led one to suspect that some people may deliberately have sought to torpedo the Polish problem just as it was in prospect of reaching some settlement.

The Friday morning papers reported that Stanislav Mikolajczyk, Premier of the Polish Regime in London, had been invited to back Moscow. There was renewed hope that the reorganized government of Warsaw was satisfactory both to the western powers and the USSR.

Such a reorganization means a political death for the London government. On Friday the pro-London anti-Soviet, Polish and American Congress asked Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, to press the Russians for information on the fate of the Polish leaders.

On Friday evening, Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Commissar of Foreign Affairs, told Stettinius and Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, that 16 were arrested on charge of a diversionary activity against the Red army.

Information Leaks Out

This information was given in confidence but it leaked out to Frederick Kuh of the Chicago Sun who filed the story that night. No doubt, it was permitted to leak out deliberately and was made an excuse for the press conference on Saturday morning at which Stettinius made a statement on the arrests while Molotov was away on a tour of the Kaiser shipyards.

Molotov who did not know the story was to be given out, did not know that it had until several hours later. That afternoon, the Moscow radio reported that the 16 were arrested for the installation of the maintenance of illegal radio transmitters in the rear of the Soviet troops and for acts which cost the lives of more than a hundred Red army men. These specific charges were given Kuh and used by him on the night before and was also made known to Stettinius.

The Lublin spokesman said that two of the 16 were anti-semites and Fascists, and he asked how Stettinius could describe them as democratic whereupon Stettinius complained that the Russians were not supplying enough information.

In the fight of the London government and the operations of Rosnowski's forces in Poland, it would be very unwise to assume as so many newspapers do that the arrests must have been arbitrary and unjust and another example of Soviet highhandedness. This is exactly the position into which the anti-Soviet press was trying to stampede public opinion.

From one standpoint, the London Poles' sensational disclosures served to block the settlement of the Polish problem. From the standpoint of Stettinius, it served to destroy the good effects created by Molotov's opposition to the admission of Argentina.

In the Argentine issue, we won a diplomatic victory which, however, was a moral defeat and may be the beginning of a serious obstacle in the big power unanimity.

BAKU OIL FIELDS

U.S.S.R. to Spend an Enormous Sum For Reconstruction

The Moscow radio declared that the Soviet Government has decided to expend a tremendous sum of money on the reconstruction of the Baku Oil Fields, according to a July 20 Domei dispatch from Stockholm. It is reported that the old wells will be re-opened and that new wells will be drilled and equipped with the most up-to-date facilities.

NEW GUINEA DEFENDERS SMASH AUSSIE ATTACKS

Japanese Account for 6,800 Enemy Troops in Less Than 1 Month of Fighting

By Courtesy of the Press Section

Imperial Japanese Forces in the New Guinea area are smashing the persistent offensive of the Australian 6th Division near Wewak.

In a little less than one month from the early part of June, the Japanese have killed or wounded 6,800 enemy troops.

Meanwhile, fighting continues to rage on Bougainville Island where the Japanese Units, overcoming many obstacles and hardships, are counterattacking the enemy troops who are making strenuous efforts to smash the Japanese position.

At the latter part of June, the enemy advanced to a point on the right bank of the Mio River in the southern part of the island. After a heavy battle, the Japanese accounted for 915 enemy troops killed or wounded, besides blasting nine tanks, 27 bivouacs and four vehicles.

No big changes have been seen in the war situation in the central front of the island, but in the northern part, the Japanese Forces started a new drive in mid-June. They went into action at Numanuma and dashed into Tasu on July 10. The enemy fled leaving 168 dead behind.

Sittang Battle Continues

By Courtesy of the Press Section

The Japanese Forces in the Shittang River area that began an offensive operation on the west bank of the river after effecting a river-crossing, captured the enemy positions at Nyaukasi, Myicao and Raya at dawn of July 9.

Launching strong shock attacks the Japanese are now attaining further war results. Ever since the commencement of the Sittang river-crossing operation up to July 21, the Japanese troops have accounted for more than 1,000 enemy soldiers killed or wounded besides seizing various war trophies.

In the Kalaw area, North Burma, the enemy is at present trying to make a southward move.

Norwegian Envoy Ill

According to a Chungking report dated July 19 received in Lisbon, the Norwegian Ambassador to Chungking is seriously suffering from an attack of cholera and was rushed today to the United States Army Hospital in Chungking.

Dissolving Canadian 1st Army

According to an Ottawa report dated July 19 received in Stockholm, Canadian Defense Minister General Andrew MacNaughton disclosed today that the Canadian First Army will be dissolved on July 21.

JAPANESE STOP ADVANCE OF BALIK PAPAN ENEMY

Invaders at Oil Pumping Station in Wakan River Sector Annihilated

By Y. YOSHIMURA

Of the Military Press Corps

SOUTHERN ADVANCE BASE, July 22.—The war situation in the Balik Papan area is in a stalemate.

The Japanese Forces checked the enemy's advance on July 19 at a line connecting the Wakan River at a point eight kilometers from Samarinda and the Spingan airfield. Due to the skilful Japanese operational tactics, the enemy was forced to pay heavy sacrifices.

The oil pumping station at the Wakan River once fell into enemy hands, but the Japanese, by conducting bayonet charges against the enemy position at night, annihilated the enemy troops there and destroyed the pumping equipment. Enemy reports admit the fierce resistance of the Japanese Forces and the increase of casualties on his side. The enemy also revealed that a lull prevails on the entire front.

At the Spingan air base, small aircraft have begun to show some activities.

On the shore opposite Balik Papan and in the hilly area nearby, the enemy is rushing the construction of his positions.

The Japanese officers and men are using fuel and new kinds of arms manufactured through their own devices. Particularly, the mines they manufacture with their own hands are very effective.

WAVELL CALLS MEETING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Conference of Provinces Called For August 1 and 2 at New Delhi by Viceroy

The Viceroy of India, Lord Wavell, has called a meeting of provincial governments to be held at New Delhi on August 1 and 2, according to a New Delhi dispatch relayed from Lisbon.

Meanwhile, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad President of the Indian National Congress, referring to the Simla Conference, said in an interview at Calcutta Thursday that it had made some contributions to the political factions of India.

According to another dispatch from India received in Lisbon, the Vice-President of the All India Muslim Council, on behalf of the President, has stated that the Muslims who form the majority of the working masses are determined as never before to play their part in the struggle for the emancipation of their motherland as otherwise the freedom of the land and of the Muslims of the country is but a dream.

He added that a general election held on the widest possible franchise can alone move the Muslim masses to change their will as to who should command the Indian government, and "We must strive now for that supreme test which will decide the control of the rival working parties."

Mountbatten Visits Manila

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces in Southeast Asia, arrived in Manila by a military plane on July 2 from India and conferred for three day with General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief in Southwestern Pacific, and returned to India last week, the Headquarters of the Allied Military Forces in Southeast Asia officially announced on July 19, a Calcutta dispatch as relayed by Domei from Lisbon reported.

U.S. House Adjourning

According to a Washington report dated July 19 received in Lisbon, the House of Representatives on Wednesday agreed to adjourn for weeks starting Saturday and lasting until October 8. The Senate, however, will remain in session until the vote on the United Nations Charter is taken. The vote is due about August 1.

Aussies Plan Trade Pact

According to a Canberra report dated July 20 received in Stockholm, Australia is planning a new trade agreement with the United Kingdom and other countries of the British Empire as well as with the United States, Netherlands East Indies and China. It said that vessels on these lines will be started soon.

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TOKYO OFFICE:
1, Itchome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku. Central P.O. Box 144, 352, 358.
Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 403, 5857, 5858, 5859, 7003.
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The Political Effectiveness Of the Suzuki Cabinet

The Suzuki Cabinet has been singularly active in instituting vigorous administrative measures designed to prepare the country for the decisive combat on the soil of the homeland. Of this fact there can be no doubt. The steps taken for the elaboration of the regional administrative machinery, the measures taken with respect to the food situation, the strengthening of the transportation system, the simplification of the tax collection system, the modifications which are being made in the educational system, and the various measures which have been adopted in accordance with the new Wartime Emergency Measures Law, attest to the activity of the Government with respect to the administrative side of its duties.

In contrast, it cannot be said that the present Cabinet has been equally successful in the discharge of its more strictly political functions. For, while the Government is moving rapidly to set up a comprehensive administrative structure for total war, there still seems to be room for a more complete marshalling of general public cooperation in support of these measures. The fault does not lie with the public, for there is no question but that the people as a whole are brimming full with the determination and desire to render their all in a supreme effort to wage the war. There is no question that they are eager to support the Government without stint. What is lacking are the tangible means by which the people's energies can be more directly harnessed to the carrying out of the measures formulated by the Government. This linking of the public's energies to the administrative measures of the Government is the function of politics. And in this respect, there are still untapped potentialities which can be developed to increase the nation's fighting efficiency. The key to unlocking these potentialities lies in a more effective functioning of politics.

From one point of view, the greater predilection of the Suzuki Cabinet for administrative effectiveness than for political effectiveness is but natural in the light of Prime Minister Suzuki's character. The Prime Minister is a person whose long career up to the present has had very little to do with politics. He is a classical example of the Japanese sailor who has concentrated his entire efforts upon serving the State through single-minded devotion to his naval duties. It may therefore not be altogether fair to expect of him the political versatility and finesse which might be expected of men who have had a lifetime experience in the finer points of politics. Indeed the real value of Prime Minister Suzuki's contribution to the nation at this time may lie in the very fact that his abilities tend in another direction. A straightforward sailor may indeed be more appropriate to stand at the helm of the nation's affairs at this particular time than a professional politician of the orthodox type.

But at that same time, there is no reason why the present Government need put up with ineptness in political technique, for there is no lack of political talent among the members of the Suzuki Cabinet. It is true, of course, that Foreign Minister Togo, Home Minister Abe, Finance Minister Hirose, Justice Minister Matsuzaka, Agriculture and Commerce Minister Ishiguro, Munition Minister Toyoda, and Transportation Minister Kobiyama are primarily technical experts in their respective fields. It may be asking too much of these men, when such great demands are being made upon their energies in their own specialized fields, to devote much attention to general political activities. But there are other men in the Cabinet from whom an effective manifestation of political talent may well be expected.

Education Minister Ota, for instance, is such a man. Besides enjoying particularly intimate relations with Baron Hiranuma, the influential senior statesman who is the President of the Privy Council, Mr. Ota has also served as the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet during the Hiranuma regime and today holds a seat in the House of Peers. Another such person is Welfare Minister Okada, who was formerly Speaker of the House of Representatives. With years of political experience in his parliamentary position and as a leader of the former Seiyukai Party, he possesses an abundance of political ability and useful contacts. These two Cabinet members, rather than concentrating solely on the duties of the respective ministries, should logically assume a large share of the burden of the general political activities of the present Government.

In addition, the Cabinet is blessed by the presence of three Ministers Without Portfolio. Of them, Mr. Sakurai has had wide parliamentary experience as a leading figure in the former Minseito Party, while Vice-Admiral Sakonji and Lieutenant General Yasui have likewise had a rich political experience since their retirement from the armed services. These three personages, with no strictly defined administrative responsibilities, are available to assist the Prime Minister in the discharge of political duties of the Cabinet.

Completing the roster are President Shimomura of the Board of Information and Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakomizu. The former, with his wide experience in the newspaper and radio fields, is in close touch with public opinion, which makes him a distinct asset from the political point of view. The latter possesses unusual qualities as a representative of the younger political elements and as a representative of the newer trends in the nation's political life through his notable work in connection with the recent wartime measures in the Finance Ministry and with the planning organs of the Government. As the son-in-law of Admiral Keisuke Okada, one of the most influential of the senior statesmen, he distinguished himself by his cool conduct at the time of the turbulous Incident of February 26, 1936, when he happened to be serving as the Admiral's secretary. Thus possessing courage and ability as well as the youthful vigor befitting a representative of the newer political elements, he is indeed a notable Chief Cabinet Secretary.

Endowed with all this array of political talent, the Suzuki Cabinet is capable of much greater political effectiveness than has been manifested heretofore. Under the Japanese political system, the political activities of the Cabinet should be focussed through the Chief Cabinet Secretary, who occupies the key position in the Cabinet. This has not been done by the present Cabinet to the extent to which it might be. If the political activities of the various members of the Cabinet should be thoroughly concentrated and coordinated through this logical channel to a greater degree and more systematically than has yet been done, there is no reason why the Suzuki Cabinet should not come to enjoy greater political effectiveness. This possibility of further enhancing its effectiveness constitutes a valuable source of still available potential strength for the Suzuki Cabinet.

A Year Ago Today

July 23, 1944

Foreign Minister and concurrently Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs Mamoru Shigemitsu, at a press meeting, declared that there would be no change whatever in Japan's foreign policy.

* * *

A fierce battle raged in the Lemberg area and in the Carpathian forefield.

A FEUDAL LORD

By KANZO UCHIMURA

IV

His instruction to the farming class,—by far the most important in his dominion,—on "the Institution of the Associations of Five and Ten" (Go-Ju-kumiai) is so characteristic of his ideal of the perfect state that we give it here entire, keeping ourselves as close to the original as possible.

"The farmer's mission is in soil (tillage), and mulberries (silk-raising). Diligent in these, he feeds his father and mother, wife and children, and gives his dues to the government to have its protection. But all this is possible by the mutual dependence of one upon another, for which purpose associations of such kind are necessary. Not that you hear of none that can be thoroughly depended upon, we herein institute anew the Associations of Five and Ten and the Associations of Five Villages as follows:

"I.—The members of the Association of Five (only heads of families were counted. The rest, the same) should be in constant intercourse one with another, share the joys and sorrows of each, as do the members of one and the same family.

"II.—The members of the Association of Ten should have frequent intercourse one with another, and bear to the family affairs of each, a tie equal to their blood relationship.

"III.—They of one village should be like friends in helping and serving one another.

"IV.—The villages that constitute the Association of Five Villages should help one another in time of troubles, as befit true neighbors in all such cases.

"V.—Be ye thus kindly disposed one toward another, and fail not. If there is one among you who is old and has no child, or is young and has no parents, or is poor and cannot support himself, or is sick and has no means of help, or is dead and is left without burial, or has met fire and exposed to rain and dew, or if by other calamities his family is in distress,—let any such who has no one else to depend upon be taken up by his Association of Five, and be cared for as its own. In case it lies not in the said Association's power to succor him, let his Association of Ten lend him its help. If his case is more than the latter can do for him, let his village see to the removal of his distress and make possible his existence. Should some calamity overtake one village so that its existence is endangered thereby, how can its neighboring villages stand aloof without extending help to it? The four of the Association of Five Villages should give it willing salvation.

"VI.—To encourage the good, to teach the bad, to promote temperance, to check luxury, and so to enable each to abide in his mission,—these are the aims for which these associations are formed. If there is one who neglects his farm, or follows not his trade and runs to other employments, or indulges in dances, theaters, banquets and other laxities, such and such like should have peremptory admonition, first of his Association of Five, and then of Ten; and in case he is still refractory, he must be privily reported to the village authority and receive due treatment.

'February, 2nd year of Kyowa (1802).'

Not much of officialism in all these; yet we declare we never have seen the like of them promulgated and put into practice in any other portion of the globe except in Yoban's dominion of Yonezawa. What is called the farmers' guild in America and elsewhere is nothing more than an industrial cooperation, with selfishness as its main motive.

With his polices and lay-bishops, schools and various "instructions," and above all, with his own example, he moulded his society of 150,000 souls to his ideals slowly but effectively. How far he succeeded in so doing can be seen by the following few extracts from an account of his dominion given by a well-known scholar, Ryucho Kuranari, who went there for the special purpose of observing "how the saint rules his people."

"In Yonezawa, there is what they call the Label Market. Away from the habitations of men, by the side of public roads, sandals, shoes, fruits and other articles are exposed for sale with their prices labelled upon them, and their owners all absent. Men go there, leave the prices as marked, fetch the goods, and pass on, and nobody imagines that any stealing may be done in these markets.

"In Lord Yozan's government, the men highest in office are usually the poorest. R—is his prime minister, and nobody can compare with him in the chief's favor and confidence. Yet, as I observed his ways of living, his food and raiment reminded me of those of a poor student.

"The dominion has no custom houses and all such obstructions to free commerce on its borders, and yet no smuggling is ever attempted."

Let not our readers imagine that we are writing here an idyll about some mythic land of unknown ages. The things of which we write were practical realities; not yet one hundred years have passed since they were enacted in a well-known portion of this globe; and if they are no more realities such as they were in the days of their great enactor, their after-influences are distinctively readable in the place where they were tried, and among the people who practised them.

The Man Himself

It is not fashionable in these days to make any mortals more than common sons of Adam, especially so if such happen to be heathen, outside of the pale of Grace and Revelation; and we are often criticized for making gods out of our heroes. But perhaps of all men, Yozan has the least need of having his faults and weaknesses counted up; as he himself was more conscious of such than any of his biographers could possibly be. He was a man in the full sense of the term. Only a weak man sends in oaths to a temple on his entrance to a responsible office. It was his weakness (if we may term it) that drove him to his guardian god when a crisis overtook him and his clan. One day, while in his residence at Yedo, a roll containing the names of those subjects of his who were to be rewarded for their filial piety was sent to him for examination and approval. He looked it over, and ordered it to be kept in a drawer till his tutor's lecture was over. It was over, but the important business slipped from his mind. One of his attendants severely reprimanded him for the negligence that was unforgivable in a "lord of thousands". The chief's shame knew no bound. There he sat, for the whole night in repentance, weeping, and "could not touch his breakfast because of his shame." The next morning the tutor was called in, absolution was passed over him by a quotation from the book of Confucius, and then "his food passed through his throat." Let not Historical Criticism be too harsh to a soul so sensitive as this.

But nowhere do we find the transparency and integrity of his character more than in his home and domestic relations. His frugality we have already touched upon. He kept up his cotton stuff and meager table till the very end of his life, when the credit of his treasury was fully restored, and he had abundance at his command. His old tatami he would not replace till further remedy became impossible; and he was often seen patching up torn mats by pasting papers over them.

His idea of home was a most exalted one. Herein he followed literally the words of the sage who said, "He alone ruleth his family who ruleth himself; and he alone can rule a nation whose family is in right order." At the time when nobody doubted the right of concubinage, especially in men of his social standing, and when few daimyos had less than four or five concubines, Yozan had only one who was his senior by ten years, and under the following exceptional circumstance. The lady to whom he was wedded in his minority by their parents, according to the then custom of the land, proved to be a born imbecile, and her intellect was never above that of a child of ten years of age. However, he treated her with genuine love and respect, made for her toys and dolls, and comforted her in all ways and for twenty years of their wedded lives he never showed any dissatisfaction with his fate. His other consort was left in Yonezawa, while they lived mostly in Yedo, and was never allowed the dignity he attached to his imbecile wife. The latter of course left him no children.

(To Be Concluded)

Party Crasher

A well known hostess was saying goodbye at one of her large parties to a number of guests and a young man who had crashed the party found himself in the line. "Goodbye," he said coolly, "It has been a marvelous party."

"So glad you liked it," said the hostess cordially, "remind me to ask you next time."

Jolt

A famous writer with a reputation as a Lothario tried to refuse when a witty hostess invited him to a charity affair, pleading that he was working on something important.

"Oh, in that case just bring your work with you," the lady suggested. "We'd love to have her too."

Godfather

One of the godfathers at a christening party became nervous just before the ceremony began. "What if they give me the baby to hold," he asked.

"Don't worry," his friend told him soothingly. "Same grip as a cocktail shaker."

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CRISIS IN BELGIUM

King Leopold's Return May Lead to Civil War

The much-entangled problem of King Leopold's return to Belgium seems to have reached a final climax. Last July Prime Minister Achille van Acker himself flew to Salzburg followed by four legal advisors to the King in an attempt to lend a helping hand in untying the entangled knot. It seems that the Government authorities are of the opinion that the Premier's visit was to persuade the King to abdicate. According to a news flash from Brussels the New York Times of July 8th had the following to say regarding the incident:

"The purpose of the recent visit of Premier Van Acker to Salzburg was to pursuade the abdication of the King but if the King refuses to accept the Prime Minister's proposal then the latter would immediately return to Belgium and submit the proposal to parliament and attempt to speedily settle the matter by a general vote. Of course the reason for the Prime Minister's hasty trip to Salzburg is because of King Leopold's attitude in maintaining a vague status quo regarding the Throne issue and because of his attitude in dragging the matter as long as possible. In other words the King schemed to drag the matter over for at least another six months during which time he knew very well the general election could not possibly take place due to the unsettled internal conditions of the country.

When Attorney General Leon Cornil returned from Salzburg last February and handed the King's confidential message to Prime Minister Van Acker it was generally believed that the King had decided to abdicate the Throne and had commenced negotiations along this line. But as it was later revealed that the King had decided to remain on the Throne the Government at once resorted to the last card to speedily settle the issue at hand once and for all.

As revealed through this Brussel's dispatch, up to the present no steps were ever taken either by the King's followers or by the Government for the final solution of the matter but it must also be noted that the people in general did not support the King's cause noticeably. The extreme right wing party, the Catholics, too called an emergency meeting of members of the Upper and Lower Houses on the night of July 7th and it was reported that they have unanimously adopted a resolution to call for a general election if possible and if that is impossible, to submit the issue to the popular vote of the people.

Monument of the Irreconcilables

It is believed, on the other hand, that the members of the Socialist Party, the Liberial Party, and the Communist Party who are opposing the return of the King to Belgium are expected to carry on the fight and strongly demand, en bloc, the King's abdication at the emergency session of the Parliament which is expected to convene as soon as Premier Van Acker returns to Brussels. It is also reported that these party members have already drafted a document impeaching the King as a preliminary step toward his ultimate abdication.

Public interest in the abdication issue has cooled off somewhat but when the July 8th issue of La Libre Belgique published an article regarding an order of the American military authorities that King Leopold III should be aprehended upon his return to Belgium, the matter flared up and began inciting public interest again. Astonished at this sudden reaction of the Belgian people the American authorities immediately ordered a thorough investigation of the matter through the military authorities of the Twelfth Army and at the same time made an open declaration that the report was baseless and that it was against the stand of the American High Command.

Pressed hard by the abdication issue the Belgian Government is getting more entangled than ever before and although there appears to be slight lessening of the pressure on the part of the supporters of the King there seems to be no visible solution with the oposing factions and therefore the road to a smooth solution to this issue is expected to be hazardous, inviting perhaps a national crisis of splitting the country into two.

Whether King Leopold III should return to Belgium or abdicate, the problem is too complicated to draw a hasty conclusion but the Van Acker Cabinet is expected to deal a last hand in the immediate future for a final solution to this national drama.

The Swiss publication Basler Nachrichten in a recent issue published the following article clarifying England's attitude regarding the issue:

"Although England too is gravely concerned regarding the Belgian crisis vis-a-vis King Leopold's abdication problem, for the present moment she is assuming an observatory attitude considering the issue as a pure internal problem which should be settled by Belgium alone. Too, in view of England's bitter experience on he Greek problem and, moreover, in view of the impending general election and also to avoid public criticism regarding assisting the 'reactionary force' of foreign nations, the Churchill Cabinet is trying desperately to avoid sticking its nose into the affairs of other people —in this case, the Belgian trouble. Indeed if the Churchill Cabinet cannot touch upon the Belgian crisis without eliciting such criticisms from its political enemies, then the British policy regarding the Belgian King must be in a dilemma or in an extreme state of quandary to say the least."

But if Leopold III should return to Belgium under the public's protest and in direct opposition to the Van Acker Cabinet's policy, then it is a foregone conclusion that the Belgian administration would face the gravest crisis in her history. The cabinet would instantly resign en masse in accordance with the statement issued by the cabinet in the middle of June which stated in part: "The cabinet cannot be held totally responsible for the state of affairs which might ensue as the result of the King's return to Belgium," and therefore the King would attempt to organize a new cabinet composed of Catholic and other factions. But such a new cabinet would not be able to override the majority in Parliament and the chances are it will be dissolved immediately and the general election would have to take place 40 days later. As the result of the election, if the Left party should emerge victorious with a slight margin then the rout of the King's factions would seem a certainty. But here is a fact we must not overlook and that is, because of this crisis there is more than an even chance of inviting a civil war. The King's faction has for its support some 2,000 picked men in the Belgian army, now in England, and with the aid of the Flemish faction it will no doubt oppose the Left factions and as the result the nation would be like a hornet's nest with uprisings. In such an emergency the interference of Britain into Belgium's internal affairs as well as the increasing of her forces in Belgium, in Antwerp, Brussels, and other chief Belgian cities, which form the supply route of the Allied forces within the occupied territory of Germany, will have to be considered seriously.

Queen Elizabeth's Visit

In spite of Britain's avowed policy of non-interference in Belgium's internal affairs, the recent visit to London of Dowager Queen Elizabeth, the mother of Leopold III, is viewed with a critical eye and suspicion. Although apparently it seems that the visit was purely a personal one and during her visit to London she confined herself within the Belgian Embassy compound and avoided all political conferences, according to secret information the Dowager Queen had many conferences with the British leaders. Of course, it was not disclosed who these leaders were but the fact that Prime Minister Churchill actually doubled-up on foreign affairs duties while Anthony Eden was confined to bed, may throw some light upon the possible intrigue attending the Queen's visit. The Queen, after the meeting with the leaders immediately returned to Austria and it is an established fact that immediately after the meeting with the Queen mother, Leopold III declared his intention of returning to Belgium. In view of this fact it seems logical to assume, putting two and two together, that the Queen's visit to London and the King's intention to return to Belgium must bear some connection.

Therefore analyzing all the above facts it would not be totally erroneous to conclude that England, which previously supported the Greek King is again backing King Leopold's return to Belgium as well.

WHITHER CZECHOSLOVAKIA?

Three Pending Questions Complicate the Situation

By KEISHIRO [illegible]

II

The changes which Ruthenia underwent from a high self-governing body to an independent state have been explained above. But there is more to the history of its transformation. It was its relations with Hungary.

Hungary was secretly working on Germany from the very beginning of Germany's dismemberment of Czechoslovakia. Hungary wanted to annex the Magyar region with the assistance of Germany. According to "A Mission that Failed," written by Neville Henderson, former British Ambassador to Berlin, great difficulty arose on September 22, 1938, the first day of the Godesburg Conference. This was due to Hitler's proposal regarding the racial question of Magyar and Poland. Hitler himself was in full support of both the Polish and Hungarian demands.

In fact, Bela Imredy, Premier of Hungary, accompanied by Koloman Kanya, Foreign Minister, and others visited Chanchellor Adolf Hitler at his Obasalzburg mountain villa on September 20, 1939, or two days before the Hitler-Chamberlain Conference in Godesburg and stressed the need for a self-determination of the Hungarian minority race in Czechoslovakia. It was because of this preparatory negotiation that Hungary established the foundation of partaking in the lion's share together with Poland in the subsequent Munich Agreement.

When the Munich Agreement was signed by the countries concerned, the Hungarian Government lost no time in opening direct negotiations with Czechoslovakia. The negotiation began on October 9, 1938, and in the same month, an agreement was reached between the two governments regarding the transfer of the Satoralja and Ipoly areas to Hungary. But things became complicated and the situation was aggravated. Therefore, Italy and Germany proposed mediation on October 24. And on November 2 the disputes were solved by arbitration at Vienna and a new boundary line was demarcated. But this does not mean that the question has been solved definitely.

Czechoslovakia obtained a lull by the Munich Agreement but this was only for the time being. While it led to the establishment of the independent republics of Slovakia and Ruthenia and the protectorate of Bohemia-Moravia, the Ruthenian question still remained to be settled. Hungary considered this region as inhabited by the Magyar race. She was not satisfied with the acquisition of the border regions after the Munich Agreement. She wanted more—the annexation of Ruthenia. Then the opportunity came at the time the republic of Czechoslovakia was dismembered into three.

On March 16, 1939, Viscount Paul Teleki, Premier of Hungary, declared in Parliament that (1) the Hungarian army should occupy Ruthenia within the shortest possible time; (2) this region should be returned to the "motherland" because it has belonged to Hungary during the past one thousand years; (3) Hungary has a life or death interest in this district; and (4) a system of self-government should be allowed the Ruthenian brothers.

On this day, Augustin Voloshiv, Premier of Ruthenia, and other members of his cabinet fled into Rumanian territory from Sziget and requested the Rumanian Government to annex Ruthenia. But it was too late. The vanguards of the Hungarian army had already reached the Polish border.

Rise and Fall of Minority Races

It is clear from the above explanation that Ruthenia had frequently changed its master and that its independence was quite short. This, in short, is because the principle of racial self-determination in Western Europe is not considered an inborn right of every race and people. Therefore, it was always justled to and fro with the rise and fall of international influences of the time. Ruthenia is a typical example of this fact. First, the dominating race were the Czechs, then Germans, Magyars and finally Russians.

A racial unification could be secured if it is incorporated into Ukraine. However, geographically, it is considered by the Magyars as their habitat. This is the peculiarity and cancer of the minority race problem. Rumania would also like to say a word. Once a Hungarian correspondent in Tokyo resolutely opposed the writer when he said that Ruthenia is more Russian than Hungarian. Whether or not this region belongs to Russia, Hungary, or Rumania cannot be concluded rashly.

(End)

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